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03500.018003

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: )  
HIDEKAZU SHIMOMURA )  
: )  
Application No.: 10/810,581 )  
: )  
Filed: March 29, 2004 )  
: )  
For: OPTICAL SCANNING )  
DEVICE AND IMAGE )  
FORMING APPARATUS )  
USING THE SAME : June 18, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to the Notice published in the Official Gazette dated August 5, 2003.

U.S. Patent 5,764,399  
U.S. Patent 6,683,707  
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/126362  
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/25784  
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/48352  
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/53815  
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/27446  
Japan 9-21944

Japan 9-21944 was cited in the specification and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. In addition, it is believed that U.S. Patent 5,764,399 is an English language counterpart to this Japanese application.

Applicant also respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the following co-pending applications, which have been assigned in common with the present application:

(1) Application No. 10/633,521 (Atty. Docket No. 00684.003510), filed August 5, 2003 by Keiichiro Ishihara, et al.,

(2) Application No. 10/725,399 (Atty. Docket No. 03500.017747), filed December 3, 2003 by Hidekazu Shimomura.

Copies of these co-pending applications are enclosed

It is Applicant's belief that Japanese priority applications for some of the above U.S. applications may have been published before the filing date of the subject application, making the Japanese publications themselves available as prior art under at least § 102(a).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,  
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to  
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

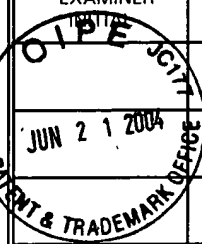
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. DeFuria", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 32622

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.018003</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/810,581</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Hidekazu Shimomura</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>March 29, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>Unknown</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,764,399	6/9/98	Iizuka	359	205	
		6,683,707	1/27/04	Ishihara, et al	359	205	
		2002/12636	9/12/02	Shimomura	359	196	
		2003/25784	2/6/03	Sato, et al	347	244	
		2003/48352	3/13/03	Kato, et al	347	258	
		2003/53815	3/20/03	Testardi, et al	399	79	
		2004/27446	2/12/04	Kato, et al	347	228	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		9-21944	1/21/97	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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